GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1524
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Branmaputra Crackers and Polymers Ltd.
Tasa Shri Kamakhya Prasad

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that Brahmaputra Crackers and Polymer Limited is already set up in Lapetketa, Dibrugarh , Assam and its commissioning has been delayed, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(b) whether any inquiry commission has been set up to examine the delay in commissioning of the project, if so, the details thereof and the action that would be taken against those found responsible for the delay;
(c) whether the appointment process in BCPL has been completed, if so, the details thereof; and
(d) whether any priority was / would be given to the local unemployed youth in the appointment process in BCPL, if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a) & (b) : The Assam Gas Cracker Project (AGCP) is being set up in Lepetkata, Dibrugarh, Assam by M/s Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL). The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in November, 2011 approved the commissioning of the project by December, 2013. However, as the project could not be completed as per aforesaid timeline, a Standing Committee was set up by the Department to examine the reasons for delay in April, 2014. The Committee's findings in this regard are as under:

(i) Lack of adequate and effective supervision by Engineers India Limited (EIL), the Engineering and Project Management Consultant (EPMC) for the project;

(ii) Delay in permission from statutory authority (Forest Department, Government of Assam) for utilizing sand / earth for construction purpose;

(iii) Financial crunch faced by the contractors;

(iv) Inadequate mobilization of resources (manpower & machinery);

(v) Delay in mobilization of 650 MT crane by contractor for erection of structure;

(vi) Under Estimation of storage capacity of raw material;

(vii) Misplacement / mismanagement of free issue material;

(viii) Loss of working days due to bandh, strike, rain etc;

(ix) Macroeconomic factors beyond control of the implementing agency.

(x) Lack of unity of administrative control over promoters, EPMC, implementing agency and feedstock suppliers.

Further, in September 2015, due to heavy leakage from the top of the Cold Box Package in Ethylene Cracker Unit (ECU), all the ongoing commissioning activities in ECU had to be stopped for attending to the leakage. However, the rectification of the leakage in the cold box has been carried out now and the project is presently at final stage of commissioning.
(c) Out of the total sanctioned strength of 700 employees in BCPL, 566 employees have been recruited and the balance recruitment is under progress.
(d) BCPL is governed by the Constitutional Provisions and Presidential Directives in the matter of recruitment, which provide for uniform opportunity to all citizens of India, including the local people who meet the eligibility criteria. At present, out of 566 employees recruited on BCPL roll, around 91% employees, in case of non-executives cadre and around 65% employees in case of executive cadre are from Assam & North East. Besides, on an average, around 1600 labourers (Skilled, semi-skilled & un-skilled) are deployed at Project site through outsourced agencies on contractual basis and out of them more than 95% are from local area.
****